

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
SS-15 NSC-05 IO-13 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
OIC-02 ( ISO ) W  
-----099479 132153Z /43  
R 122012Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8530  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08889

USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, XL, GW  
SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN GROUP DONORS MEETING

REFS: A) STATE 118822 (NOTAL), B) BONN 8490

1. ECON COUN CONVEYED SUBSTANCE REFTEL A MAY 12  
TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY BOELL IN MINECONCOOP. CONTENTS  
WERE ALSO PASSED MAY 11 TO FONMIN. FRG OFFICIALS,  
AFTER CONSULTING WITH SENIOR COLLEAGUES, INFORMED US  
LATER IN THE DAY THAT THERE WERE NO CHANGES IN FIRM  
POLICY OF AVOIDING PARTICIPATION IN THIS EXERCISE.  
FUCHS OF GERMAN MISSION IN PARIS WILL BE SOLE FRG  
REP AT MAY 16 MEETING.

2. AS REASONS FOR GERMAN POSITION, BOELL CITED:

A) STRONGER GERMAN INTERESTS IN OTHER PARTS  
OF WORLD, SUCH AS AFRICA, MEDITERRANEAN AND  
SOUTH PACIFIC;

B) DOUBTS ABOUT THE READINESS OF VARIOUS  
GOVERNMENTS IN THE CARIBBEAN AREA TO COOPERATE  
GENUINELY WITH ONE ANOTHER; AND  
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C) PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF GERMAN  
EFFORTS TO OBTAIN RECOGNITION AS A "SUBSTANTIAL  
CONTRIBUTOR" TO THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT  
BANK (CDB) AND THE CARIBBEAN INVESTMENT  
CORPORATION (CIC).

3. BOELL SAID THAT THE MAIN AREA OF GERMAN DEVELOP-

MENT ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY IS IN AFRICA, WHERE PER CAPITA INCOME IS EXTREMELY LOW. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THE GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF AID TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC, WHERE THE GREAT GEOGRAPHICAL DISTANCES MADE THE ISLANDS MORE VULNERABLE TO SECURITY THREATS FROM THE SOVIETS. (THE NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY HAD JUST BEEN IN YESTERDAY ON THIS.)

4. BOELL REPEATED ARGUMENTS IN REFTEL B THAT THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES DID NOT QUALIFY FOR SUCH A HIGH LEVEL OF AID, ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT GERMAN BILATERAL PROGRAMS IN HAITI, JAMAICA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WERE SIGNIFICANT. HE SAID THE FRG PREFERRED BILATERAL PROGRAMS IN THOSE COUNTRIES, WHERE MORE DIRECT CONTROL WAS POSSIBLE. HE MENTIONED OTHER DONORS GEOGRAPHICALLY NEARER, SUCH AS VENEZUELA, THE US AND CANADA.

5. FURTHER DISCUSSION REVEALED THAT THE FRG IS PROBABLY QUITE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE EXISTING CARIBBEAN REGIONAL AID AND , IN FACT, TO INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY ITS FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUCH REGIONAL ACTIVITIES, BUT ONLY AFTER IT IS RECOGNIZED AS AN EQUAL PARTNER WITH CANADA AND OTHER MAJOR DONORS AS A "SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTOR." BOELL AND HIS COLLEAGUES REHEARSED A RATHER LONG DETAILED HISTORY

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OF CONDITIONS BEING IMPOSED, THEN MET BY THE FRG, ONLY TO FIND EVEN STRONGER CONDITIONS IMPOSED. THEY INDICATED THAT THE CANADIANS WERE THE VILLAINS OF THE PIECE, BUT THAT THE US HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO PUSH THE CANADIANS TO BE MORE ACCOMMODATING TO THE GERMAN POSITION.

6. COMMENT: IN SPITE OF ALL THE ARGUMENTATION, THE ECON COUNS GAINED THE IMPRESSION THAT THE FRG WISHES TO USE THIS OCCASION TO OBTAIN LEVERAGE FOR BETTER CONDITIONS OF FRG PARTICIPATION IN THE CDB AND CIC. ONCE THE GERMANS ARE SATISFIED THAT THEY ARE BEING TREATED FAIRLY IN THESE TWO INSTITUTIONS, WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THEY MIGHT BE MORE WILLING TO BECOME ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEW CARIBBEAN DONORS GROUP.

STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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